

extending my deepest sympathy to his family on his passing.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH INSURANCE EXPANSION ACT

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill that will help uninsured Americans get the health insurance coverage they want and need. It has been endorsed by the Blue Dog Coalition, whose members support this fiscally responsible, targeted solution that will help uninsured Americans and the small businesses where many of them work.

Like a majority of my colleagues, I support the Patients' Bill of Rights that will give patients and their doctors power over health care decisions. I have been frustrated by the slow work of the conference committee in coming to a compromise on this legislation.

I want a Patients' Bill of Rights to pass before Congress adjourns for the year. I want to go home and tell my constituents that I have done what I promised to do. I hope that the bill I am introducing today will provide a middle ground for the conference negotiations. A majority of this House supports the Patients' Bill of Rights, and both Republicans and Democrats can agree that the problem of the uninsured is one of our most pressing public health concerns.

The bill would provide immediate 100 percent deductibility of health insurance premiums for self-employed individuals. My bill also would create a temporary tax credit for small employers who have not offered health insurance in the past two years. The credit will reimburse 20 percent of health insurance costs, up to \$400 per year for individuals and \$1000 for family coverage. Businesses can get an additional 10 percent tax credit (up to 30 percent total) if they join in a Health Benefit Purchasing Coalition, which provides small employers a way to pool resources, negotiate collectively with insurers, and administer health plans for small employer groups. In order to foster innovation on the state level, the bill creates a state grant program for initiatives that expand health insurance to the uninsured through market innovations.

I have attached the letter sent to Senator NICKLES from the Blue Dog Coalition asking him to consider our bill as a reasonable compromise to the \$48 billion access bill that passed the House with no offsets. This bill is targeted, fiscally responsible, and could become law.

Small employers are struggling to provide health insurance coverage for their employees, and Congress should do something to help them. It's the right thing to do for business, and it's the right thing to do for millions of Americans who want and need health insurance.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR MORIHIRO SAITO

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Morihiro Saito, a professor of Aikido, who has offered his services to my constituents in the 6th Congressional District of California during his many visits to the North Bay over the last 25 years. During that time, Professor Saito has brought the message of peace, harmony and intelligent reconciliation of conflicts to the people of California.

On September 22, 2000, a seminar will be held in San Rafael, California, to promote the art of Aikido. More than 300 people are expected to attend from around the world. I am proud to again welcome Professor Morihiro Saito to our area. I would like to welcome our world guests to this seminar.

I, along with the Aikidoists in California, would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for Professor Morihiro Saito's years of service and dedication to teaching and instructing. It is truly remarkable that in such a short period of time a handful of Aikidoists has grown into tens of thousands of practitioners, from around the world, promoting Aikido's message of peace, harmony and nonviolent conflict resolution.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to welcome Professor Morihiro Saito to California's Sixth Congressional District.

CATHERINE E. INGRAM AND NIGEL L. GRAHAM

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to two former House Pages, Catherine Elizabeth Ingram and Nigel Leonard Graham on the occasion of their recent marriage.

Catherine and Nigel met when they came to Washington to serve as Congressional Pages during the summer of 1988. Catherine served as a Page under my sponsorship while Nigel was sponsored by the Honorable HENRY WAXMAN of California. Nigel was extremely interested in the political process and his enthusiasm inspired Catherine's interest. They did not experience love at first sight; however, as the summer progressed they began to spend most of their days together at the Capitol and to enjoy their evenings together in D.C. A friendship developed over the summer and they agreed to keep in touch. After that summer, Nigel wrote the first letter and they have kept in touch ever since. Their friendship soon grew into a relationship and they have been a couple since 1990. When Nigel and Catherine became engaged in December 1999, they returned to the restaurant they frequented in the summer of 1988. It was a special moment as they recalled the place where their relationship began.

Mr. Speaker. It is heartwarming to know that Nigel and Catherine met and found personal

happiness through their service as Congressional Pages. I wish this fine young couple every happiness and good fortune in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ANDERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable South Carolinian on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Joe M. Anderson, Jr. has contributed much to his state in the way of service and expertise, and he will be missed in the business community of South Carolina.

Joe was born and raised in Anderson, South Carolina. He received his B.A. from the University of Georgia in 1965 and his MBA from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

To Joe, community service is a top priority. Currently, he is the President of South Carolina Operations for Bell South. He is the founding chairman of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce's Excellence in Education Council, on which he still serves as a board member. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the United States Chamber of Commerce. He was recently appointed by the Governor of South Carolina to be the Chair of the advisory council for the "First Steps" program, a new educational initiative in South Carolina. His passion for education, cultural awareness, and community service has led him to serve as president and chair of various other organizations in the state. But, regardless of his title or position, he maintains that helping others takes precedence over pride and formality.

In the midst of all of his service to his community, Joe always finds time for his family. He is married to the former Carol Gerrod of Anderson, and has three sons.

It is citizens like Mr. Joe Anderson, Jr. that make South Carolina such a great state. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in paying tribute to this fine South Carolinian who has set an example of community service, selflessness, and hard work for others, and wish him the very best in his retirement years.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL F. PILTMAN

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, a light is gone from the world with the loss of Michael F. Piltman, 46, of Rotterdam, New York.

His friends and colleagues who worked with him for many years in New York State government will always cherish Michael's special personal qualities and his dedication to public service.

He was humane, just and ethical. He lived, "... to make gentle the life of this world." To these ends he directed his many talents: a creative and facile mind, a sparkling wit, a joy in people, a zest for the political arena, tolerance for all and a passion for human rights and progressive causes.